

Tony Domnick

Public Comment – Support for West River Dairy Expansion

My name is Tony Domnick, and I live approximately 3.2 miles from West River Dairy. I have lived here since the dairy was first established, and I am writing in support of the proposed expansion.

As I sat down to write this, I came to the conclusion that this isn't something we need to ruminate on forever. We can't milk these concerns beyond reason. At some point, we need to be honest with ourselves, has Riverview hurt me, or have they helped me? Have they hurt the community, or have they helped it?

Let's separate the cream from the milk, the facts from the fluff.

Businesses that have chosen to work with Riverview have continued to grow and prosper, bringing additional opportunities and jobs into our area. A thriving community leads to stronger local businesses, more opportunities for families, increased school enrollment, and a safe, clean place to live. Even those without direct ties to the dairy still benefit from that growth.

Like any operation, there are occasional growing pains, minor nuisances, frustrations, and differing opinions. No business is perfect. But from what I've seen, Riverview has been willing to address issues and take responsibility when needed.

From a neighbor's perspective, living just over three miles away: our shallow well still provides clear water. Road concerns like mud or dust from truck traffic are addressed quickly. What is a problem one day is typically resolved the next. We've also had the opportunity to sell alfalfa and silage to the dairy and receive manure in return, which has been a significant benefit to our family farm.

Some may ask, "When is enough, enough?" And maybe I'm blinded by my addiction for cheese, but this is the community where Riverview started, and it's clear they are committed to staying here. Expanding in an area where they are already established, among neighbors who are familiar with their operation, seems to bring more benefits than drawbacks. Increased demand for feed and additional acres for manure application both support local farmers and strengthen the agricultural economy.

This expansion represents continued growth and opportunity for our community, and I believe it deserves our support.

Sincerely,

Tony Domnick